

wooden bowl factory, three shoemakers, two tailor's shops, a meat market, two stores, two lime kilns. The company known as the Deseret Manufacturing Company had begun to make plans for raising sugar beets on 1,000 acres of land.⁹

Still, the settlers joined in at parties and weddings. At their dances they served homemade cake sweetened by corn and beet molasses. They ate berries and raisins, custard pies, and nut cakes. To pay for the fiddler they would often purchase tickets during the day with squashes or pumpkins. They also put on plays and organized choirs for their church meetings.

Provo's first official choir began at a church service in 1851, when the presiding officer had some difficulty in starting a hymn. William J. Strong, a recent convert new to the settlement, simply announced a hymn and began to sing. When his faithful friends around him joined in, the number was so successful that there was a rousing request for a repeat performance. Mr. Strong was named Provo's first official chorister.¹⁰

Walker War

While the business of becoming a city occupied the people of Provo, the Indians kept a reasonable distance until two unfortunate incidents occurred in the summer of 1853. In the first, a group of Indians coming for some food from Mrs. Young threatened her with a gun. The Indian holding the gun accidentally shot one of his own companions, and the Indians ascribed the deed to the whites.

In the second incident, an Indian squaw attacked James Ivie at his house and asked him to give her some flour in exchange for some fish. As they were trading, the squaw's husband, in company with others, rode up to them. Angry with his



Ellis Eames was Provo's first mayor. *Courtesy of Provo Daily Herald.*

woman either for trading with the white man at all, or for not getting a good bargain, he lashed out at her, beating and kicking her. Ivie tried to stop him, which made an accompanying Indian angry enough to draw out his bow and arrow. Ivie grabbed the arrow and hit the Indian on the head with his gun. Ivie's blow was fatal, for later the Indian died in camp. Although the whites had tried to make peace with gifts, Walker's Indians were very angry. On 18 July, they killed a guard at Fort Payson and precipitated what is generally known as the Walker War.

With the beginning of these Indian hostilities,